

## Announcements

### The American Association for Thoracic Surgery

#### Announcement of 2008 Annual Meeting

The Eighty-eighth Annual Meeting of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery will be held May 10–14, 2008, in San Diego, CA, at the San Diego Convention Center. The meeting of the Association is open to all physicians. House Officers and Fellows will be admitted without payment of a registration fee upon presentation of a letter from their Chief of Service either during preregistration or at the time of registration.

#### Requests for Preregistration Forms and Hotel Reservations

Information about the 2008 Annual Meeting, including registration, hotel accommodations, and the social program, will be available on the AATS website at [www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org) in December.

#### Call for Abstracts

Abstract submission for the 2008 program is now open. Essayists selected for the program are reminded that papers presented at the meeting are to be submitted for consideration for publication to *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and must be submitted to the JTCVS via the Internet prior to the Annual Meeting. Papers that are selected by the AATS Program Committee may not be presented or published elsewhere prior to the Annual Meeting in 2008.

#### Applications for Membership

Applications for membership in the Association are available online at [www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org) no later than November 2007. Applications received after that date are deferred automatically for consideration until the 2008 meeting.

#### Evarts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship, 2008-2009

The Evarts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship was established in 1951 by The American Association for Thoracic Surgery. Administered through the Graham Education and Research Foundation, Fellowship grants support study by young cardiothoracic surgeons from outside North America at sites of their choice within North America and include travel between sites. Goals of the program are to broaden overall training and increase international contacts. Each Fellow should plan to have one primary center for his/her activities where he/she should spend six to nine months. The Fellow should have identified an individual at that center who will act as his/her sponsor and assist in

planning the course of study at the host institution and at other institutions. In addition to the primary center, the Fellow is encouraged to plan to spend shorter periods of time at other secondary centers to enhance the Fellowship experience.

Awards are made to surgeons of unique promise who have been regarded as having the potential for later international thoracic surgical leadership. Since the inception of the Graham Fellowship, 55 young surgeons from 27 countries have been named for the Fellowship.

The Fellowship provides a stipend of \$75,000, a major portion of which is intended for travel expenses incurred when visiting other medical centers. The Fellowship also provides two round-trip coach air fares from the recipient's country to his/her primary center. The dates of the beginning and ending of the Fellowship year should be scheduled to coincide with the Annual Meetings of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery. The Fellow will be introduced at the May 2008 meeting, which will take place in San Diego, California, May 10–14. The Fellow will be expected to provide a written summary of his/her experience to the membership prior to its 2009 Annual Meeting, which will take place in Boston, Massachusetts, May 9–13.

The Fellow should become involved predominantly with observation, consultation, teaching, and research at a variety of thoracic surgical training centers during the twelve months. Patient contact will be determined by the sponsoring surgeon and will conform to the regulations and licensing requirements of the state, province, or country in which he/she is studying.

A candidate should have completed his/her formal training in general surgery and in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, but he/she should not have reached a senior position. Candidates must be sufficiently proficient in English to realize the full benefits of the Fellowship. Candidate should not have had extensive clinical training in North America prior to making application, and should be planning to return to their native country following the completion of their fellowship. "Extensive" clinical training shall mean any period of clinical training which exceeds a total of six months in duration.

The online application submission site has been available beginning March 2007 at [www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org). All applications must have been submitted electronically via the online application submission site no later than **July 1, 2007**. The selected candidate was notified by **November 1, 2007**.

#### Resident Traveling Fellowship, 2007-2008

The American Association for Thoracic Surgery announces the **Resident Traveling Fellowship**, a program established to broaden the educational experience of residents in their final year of an approved cardiothoracic surgical training program by providing an opportunity to spend up to two weeks at one or more institutions other than their home institution.

A grant of \$7,500 will be provided to successful applicants to underwrite their travel and living expenses incurred during up to two weeks of training at one or more host institutions. The funds are also intended to provide for roundtrip travel and four nights' accommodations at the annual meeting of the Association scheduled for May 10-14, 2008 in San Diego, California. The fellowship must be completed prior to March 31, 2008.

Applicants must have the approval of their home and prospective host institutions. Candidates must complete an AATS application and include a one-page outline of what they hope to accomplish during their training. Additionally, award recipients must agree to submit a summary report to the membership of the association within thirty days after the completion of their training.

**The candidate must be a North American resident in their final year of an ACGMF approved cardiothoracic surgical training program.**

Applications are available online at [www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org) and must have been completed **no later than July 1, 2007**. The selected candidates were notified by **September 30, 2007**.

### **Norman E. Shumway Research Scholarship 2008-2010**

**T**he American Association for Thoracic Surgery announces the Norman E. Shumway Research Scholarship to provide an opportunity for research, training, and experience for North American surgeons committed to pursuing an academic career in cardiothoracic surgery. The scholarship will be funded by the Association and administered by the Graham Education and Research Foundation.

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## **The Western Thoracic Surgical Association**

### **Announcement of 2008 Annual Meeting**

**T**he Thirty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association will be held June 25-28, 2008 at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa, Kona, Hawaii. The scientific sessions are open to all duly qualified physicians. Participation in other Association activities for members, invited guests, and program participants requires payment of a social registration fee.

### **Requests for Meeting Information**

Meeting preregistration and hotel registration forms will be available in early 2008 from:

Western Thoracic Surgical Association  
900 Cummings Center  
Suite 221-U  
Beverly, MA 01915  
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890  
[wtsa@westernthoracic.org](mailto:wtsa@westernthoracic.org)

The research program must be undertaken within the first three years after completion of an approved cardiothoracic residency. Applications for the scholarship may be submitted during the candidate's final year of cardiothoracic residency or during his or her first two years in an academic position. The duration of the scholarship is to be two years.

The yearly stipend shall be \$80,000 paid to the host institution for salary support, research supplies, travel, and other legitimate academic expenses of the scholar. The application consists of three components:

1. The candidate must submit a proposal for the research to be undertaken and a statement of career plans and how the research activity will relate to the candidate's academic career.
2. The director of the laboratory in the institution at which the research will be performed shall submit an endorsement of the proposal and indicate the facilities and degree of support available for the candidate's research.
3. The chairman of the candidate's department shall submit his or her endorsement of the proposal and indicate the willingness of the institution to provide an academic appointment for the candidate upon completion of the scholarship.

The application and its components must have been submitted online at [www.aats.org](http://www.aats.org) by **July 1, 2007**. Announcement of the award was made by the president of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery **December 15, 2007**. The scholarship will begin July 1, 2008. Following completion of the two-year program, the scholar shall submit a written report of his/her research activities to the membership of the Association.

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### **Material for the Program**

Scientific papers will be considered from members and nonmembers. Member sponsorship is not necessary.

For the 2008 Annual Meeting, abstract submission opened in mid-November, 2007. All abstracts must be submitted electronically via the WTSa Web site. A Call for Abstracts will be mailed out around that time. The abstract deadline will be early January, 2008.

### **Application for Membership**

Applications for membership in the Association must be received by the Membership Committee Chairman no later than March 1, 2008 to be considered for the following annual meeting. Applicants must be sponsored by three members of the Association who are not members of the Membership Committee. Application forms will be issued only to sponsoring members.

Address correspondence to:

Chairman, Membership Committee  
The Western Thoracic Surgical Association  
900 Cummings Center  
Suite 221-U  
Beverly, MA 01915  
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890  
[wtsa@prri.com](mailto:wtsa@prri.com)